

3.8 SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS

3.8.1 Applicable Sections in FERC Documents

Please refer to Section 3.11 of the FERC Final EIS and Resource Report 5, Socioeconomics, in Exhibit F-1 of GSX-US's original application to FERC.

3.8.2 Issue 28: References to Supporting Conclusions¹

Issue Summary

Description of Problem

The FERC Final EIS does not provide references to support most statements of fact or conclusions in the discussions of population, economy, employment, housing, property values, and tax revenues. Without proper citations, it is not possible to verify the information provided.

Ecology Requirement

Include proper documentation for all data and information obtained from other sources in the SEPA Supplemental EIS.

Affected Environment

No additional analysis required.

Impacts

Proposed Action

Resource Report 5, Socioeconomics, contains the following list of references and contacts in support of the Final EIS findings and conclusions.

Data Book. 1999. San Juan County Profile. URL:
<http://www.ofm.wa.gov/databook/county/sanj.htm>.

Data Book. 1999. Whatcom County Profile. URL:
<http://www.ofm.wa.gov/databook/county/what.htm>.

Bellingham/Whatcom County Convention and Visitors Bureau. URL:
<http://www.bellingham.org>

San Juan Island Chamber of Commerce. 2000. URL: <http://www.sanjuanisland.org>.

TERA Environmental Consultants, Ltd. 2000. Environmental and socio-economic impact assessment for the Georgia Strait Crossing Project. Prepared for Georgia Strait Crossing Pipeline Limited, Vancouver, British Columbia.

U.S. Census Bureau Department of Commerce. 2000. General Population and Housing Characteristics: 1990. URL: <http://www.factfinder.census.gov>.

U.S. Census Bureau Department of Commerce. 2000. Occupancy, Tenure, and Age of Householder: 1990. URL: <http://www.factfinder.census.gov>.

Washington State Employment Security Department. 1999. San Juan County Profile. Labor Market and Economic Branch Report. URL: <http://www.wa.gov/esd/lmea>.

Washington State Employment Security Department. 1999. Whatcom County Profile. Labor Market and Economic Branch Report. URL: <http://www.wa.gov/esd/lmea>

Agencies and individuals contacted by GSX-US for the socioeconomic analysis are listed in the following table.

Table 3-2: Agencies Contacted for Socioeconomic Data

Agency	Contact	Title	Phone Number/Email	Regarding	Date
Whatcom County	Kalyn Gabriel	MLIS Webmaster	kgabriel@co.whatcom.wa.us	Social Services data	6-30-00
San Juan County Health and Community Services	John Manning	Director	johnm@co.san-juan.wa.us	Social Services data	6-30-00
Whatcom County Medical Society	Marilyn Miller	Executive Secretary	(360) 676-7630, MJMiller@hinet.org	Social services data	6-30-00
Whatcom County Labor Market Information	John Wines	Research Analyst 3	1-800-215-1617, Jwines@ESD.WA.GOV	Labor statistics	7-10-00

Terasen Gas Alternative

The construction of each of the three new compressor facilities would require approximately 6,000 person-days of work and employ approximately 30 contract personnel during peak construction. Local construction companies will benefit through subcontracts for some of the general construction work. The projects will also create secondary employment by generating the need for construction support and supply services.

For pipeline looping, a typical 12.4-mile loop provides approximately 27 person-years of employment. However, once operational, these loops will provide limited maintenance employment. It is anticipated that at least some of construction skills required for each loop should be available in the local labor market. The hiring of local workers would contribute to a modest, short-term improvement in employment levels, and generate several indirect and induced jobs in local economies.

Socioeconomic analyses for the LNG facility are not available.

No Action Alternative

Implementation of the NorskeCanada proposal could have significant local benefits resulting from the purchase of local goods and services, improvement in the economic competitiveness of the local economies, diversification of local economic activity, and protection of existing local jobs.

During the construction phase of the projects, there would be an estimated 500 person-years of onsite labor. Approximately \$20 million would be spent on sourcing local services during construction, and an additional \$20 million would be spent on engineering and consulting services in the BC lower mainland.

Mitigation Measures

Proposed Action

No additional analysis required.

Terasen Gas Alternative

No additional analysis required.

No Action Alternative

No additional analysis required.

Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts

No additional analysis required.